

Handshake Partnership Program

Program Update

APPL Conference

March 9, 2012



Lake Mendocino



Hartwell Lake

Handshake Partnership Program

- **Program originated in 2004**
- **Incentive for field sites to use partnership authorities**
- **Encourage community engagement**
- **Promote mutually beneficial activities**



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Handshake Partnership Program

FY 2004 to FY 2012

- 107 project recipients**
- \$1.4 million in “seed money”**



Jordan Lake



Philpott Lake



Blue Marsh Lake



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Handshake Partnership Program Investment (FY 04 – FY12)

Handshake Funds: \$ 1,403,350

Corps Offices: \$ 2,909,596

Partners: \$ 5,422,237

Total : \$ 8,331,833



Handshake Partnership Program



Pine Flat Lake - Edison Point Trailhead



W Kerr Scott Lake - Greenway Bridge



Lake Ouachita - Vista Trail



Alabama River Lakes -
Blackbelt Birding Trail

Partnerships

An Investment In Our Future!
Over the past eight years, the Corps has made \$1.15 million in "seed money" available through the Handshake Program.



Raystown Lake - Wild Turkey Habitat

A Tool For You!
Handshake funds are an incentive to use Corps partnership authorities to engage your local community in mutually beneficial activities.



Enid Lake - Spy Glass Hill Multi-Use Trail

Handshake Partnership Program
Handshake funds combined with funding from local Corps projects and their partners' contributions benefit the community by improving our environment and providing additional recreation opportunities.

For More Information:

NRM Gateway Partnership Pages

<http://corplakes.usace.army.mil/partners/partners.cfm>

Partnership Advisory Committee Members

LRD - Chris Rapenchuk POD - Vacant

MVD - Jamie Goyal SAD - Michael Hosey

SPD - Chris Gallagher NAD - Allen Gwinn

NWD - Alana Messenbrink SWD - Jeff Boutwell



Old Hickory Lake - Project Biodiversity



San Francisco Bay Model-Jason Project



Greens Ferry Lake - Tournament Fishing Area



Philpott Lake - Multi-Use Trail



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Handshake Partnership Program Basics

- **\$250,000 total annual program**
 - ▶ **Will be increased to \$300,000 in 2013**
- **\$25,000 maximum request**
- **\$5,000 cooperating association bonus**
 - ▶ **Could receive up to \$30,000 total with bonus**



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Handshake Partnership Program Time Line

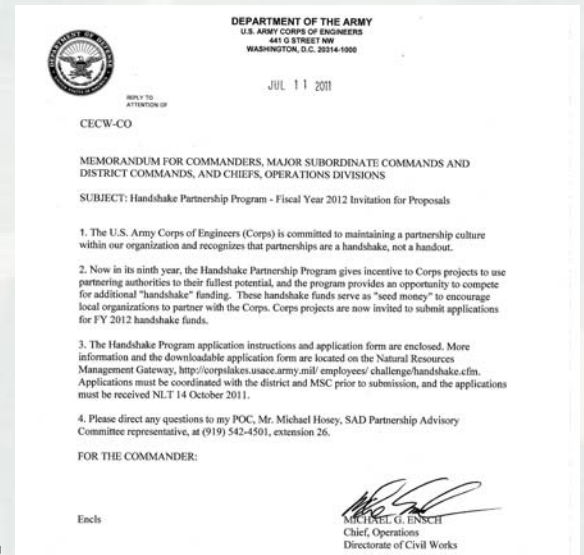
- | | |
|---|-------|
| ▪ Applications Period Begins | July |
| ▪ Application Deadline | Oct |
| <hr/> | |
| ▪ Recipients Announced | Dec |
| ▪ Agreement Deadline | Aug |
| ▪ Expend Funds | 2 yrs |
| ▶ Funds transmitted to District/Project via MIPR or FAD | |



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Handshake Partnership Program

- **Application - NRM Gateway Partnership Page**
 - MS Word form
 - Example Applications
- **May submit multiple applications but each lake project may receive funding for only one Handshake project**
- **Recipients no longer required to sit out a year before applying again**



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Handshake Partnership Program

Application Evaluation Criteria

- Sustainability
- Partnership Value
- Recreational Benefit
- Environmental Stewardship Value
- Communication and Education Value
- Innovativeness



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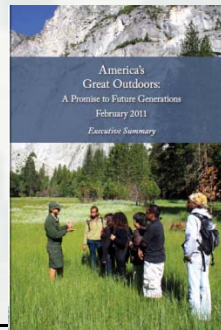
Handshake Partnership Program Basics

- **No required % matching contribution by partners**
- **Partner's contributions - cash, volunteer services/labor, materials, supplies**
 - **Reference ER & EP 1130-2-500 Ch 11**
- **Make sure to include all contributions made by partners on the application.**
- **Proposals with higher % of partner contribution and participation usually compete better**



Handshake Partnership Program Incentive Categories

- Bonus point categories may change annually
- Categories for FY13 have not been selected
- Bonus Points categories for FY 12 were:
 1. Veterans and/or military family organizations
 2. Supports America's Great Outdoors (AGO)
 3. Supports National Recreation Strategic Plan



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Handshake Partnership Program Cooperating Association Bonus

- **Incentive to formalize partnerships by entering into a Cooperative Agreement with non-profit partners**
- **Compete for an additional \$5,000**
- **Challenge Partnership that includes a partner (Friends Group/Cooperating Association) that has recently signed a Cooperative Agreement with Project/District (qualifying date specified annually) can compete for the additional funds**

Reference: - ER and EP 1130-2-500 Chapter 9 Cooperating Associations



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Handshake Partnership Program Basics

- **Handshake funds must be spent via the same processes as any other appropriated funds; in accordance with contracting laws, FAR, DFAR, and AFAR, and all other regulations.**
- **Cannot “Give” Handshake Funds to partners**
 - **The Corps does not have granting authority**
- **Handshake funds cannot be spent on Corps salaries or travel**



Handshake Partnership Program

Manage Expectations

- **Realistic view of the opportunity**
 - **Example: FY 12**
 - 36 applications submitted
 - 13 selected to receive funds
- **Prior to applying discuss with partners what you all will do if project is not selected**
 - Go ahead with project using more local office and/or partner funds
 - Agree on a scaled down version
 - Identify funding from other sources
 - Try a different project
 - Cancel project



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Handshake Partnership Program New in FY 2012

1. Challenge Partnerships Projects

and

2. Student Conservation Association (SCA) Intern/Crew - stand alone projects



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Challenge Partnership Project Basics

- **Challenge Partnership Agreement**
 - ▶ Formerly Called Challenge Cost-Share Agreement
 - ▶ Reference Chapter 12, ER & EP 1130-2-500
 - ▶ Example Agreements on NRM Gateway

- **Requirements:**
 - ▶ Corps facilities and resources maintained at 100% Corps expense
 - ▶ Agreement with a non-federal public or private entity
 - ▶ Within authorities and in approved OMP



Handshake Partnership Program SCA Projects



- USACE is authorized through Section 213(a) of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 to enter into cooperative agreements with non-federal public and nonprofit entities for services relating to natural resources conservation or recreation management at Corps Civil Work Projects.
- USACE utilizes the existing Department of the Army cooperative agreement (contract) to partner with the SCA.
- The SCA intern/crew project does not have to be part of a challenge partnership project to compete for Handshake Program funding
- SCA program information on NRM Gateway Partnership Page
▶ <http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/partners/sca/sca.cfm>



Handshake Partnership Program

For More Information:

NRM Gateway Partnership Pages

<http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/partnerhships.html>

Partnership Advisory Committee Members

MVD - Jamie Gyolai

SPD – Joel Miller

NAD - Allen Gwinn

NWD - Alana Mesenbrink

SWD – Titus Hardiman

SAD – Chad Eller

LRD - Chris Rapenchuk

HQ – Heather Burke



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Handshake Partnership Program

- Upcoming Handshake Webinars
 - ▶ July and September
 - ▶ Watch for the dates.
- GOOD LUCK!



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